

**Comments for the Grand Junction Office, Long-Term Stewardship Plan (Draft)
For the Weldon Spring, Missouri, Site: Dated August 9, 2002**

Comments from Donald E. Price – Donaldeprice@aol.com
Local citizen

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The last public workshop meeting held on August 28, 2002 encourages me, that DOE recognizes the importance of the public input, comments, suggestions, and ideas. I, as a local citizen, offer the following suggestions:

- D-1 | 1. Property ownership – now and in the long-range future will be the key control to usage of the land. Specific IC's **must** be in place at local, county, state and federal levels. It appears that little work has actually been done in the real work of working with the legal representatives and the management policy makers, and decision makers of these government agencies. This **must** be done before the LTSD can past the “draft” stage.

Response D-1: Agree. DOE is continuing work to develop and implement institutional controls (ICs) for the Weldon Spring Site (WSS). DOE understands this includes creating ICs that comply with and are enforceable under applicable local, state, and federal law and regulations. DOE will not finalize the LTS Plan until the ICs have been implemented. Implementation may trigger modification of the IC monitoring provisions in the plan.

- D-2 | 2. There has to be a well defined and detailed plan outlined in the LTSD for the future of the Interpretive Center. This must include operations, staffing, future directions and commitments. DOE has established a wonderful facility here and this will become a “living IC” if planned properly.

Response D-2: The next revision of the stewardship plan will include a budget estimate and will show a financial commitment toward staffing and upkeep of the Interpretive Center. The DOE agrees that the Interpretive Center functions as an institutional control; however, whether it continues to function in this way is dependent upon its future use. If infrequent use calls into doubt the educational and historical objectives of the Interpretive Center, DOE and the community will have to reevaluate whether this institutional control should be modified or replaced.

- D-3 | 3. Continuation of the LTSD planning efforts must include more public meetings and attention from the general public. There is a great deal of information for many people to read and absorb before they can really comment in detail. There is a good amount of DOE information and documents which could be summarized to assist in this area. Copies (hard-bound) should be available on site and also at the Interpretive Center as soon as possible for reference there.

Response D-3: As a result of the August 28, 2002, public meeting, additional public focused work sessions are being planned for this year. These meetings will provide additional opportunity for public participation.

Although DOE documents have always been available, DOE is also enhancing the availability of key documents on the Grand Junction website.

- D-4 | 4. Disposal Cell IC's and the surrounding land areas IC's must be specified in greater detail.

Response D-4: Agree. The August 9, 2002 LTS Plan indicated that ICs would be required for all occurrences where contamination was left in place and, therefore, the property can not be released for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure. The discussion was necessarily limited to describing anticipated ICs for each occurrence to inform the community that DOE would be implementing ICs for those occurrences. When the actual ICs have been developed, DOE will discuss them in detail in Section 2.6 of the LTS Plan. Discussion will define the type of instrument, enforcement authority and mechanism, affected parties, and place of recording. DOE will include the actual IC instruments in the LTS Plan before the plan is finalized.

- D-5 | 5. I believe that the schedule for the next steps in the working of the draft is much too aggressive. It has been noted that the past 3 months did not result in a good product, and to further push ahead appears not to be in the best interests of DOE and the public acceptance of the current efforts. It is best to us all to learn from the past.

Response D-5: DOE understands that it must maintain the pace of incorporating comments and preparing the best plan possible for those portions of the Weldon Spring site where the remedy has been implemented. As indicated at the August 28, 2002, public meeting, our schedule is aggressive but DOE will not reissue a revised draft of the plan if it is not ready. In addition to responding to all comments received to date, the revised plan will contain specific proposed restrictive language for the institutional controls.

- D-6 | 6. Homeland Security is an area, which must be addressed in more detail, specific plans, and with considerable more content. This area on the document is broader than just terrorism problems and potential. Security of the Cell, Interpretive Center, et al must be addressed from a local "attractive nuisance" position. Responsible local efforts must be identified and covered in the LTSD draft.

Response D-6: DOE will attempt to resolve security issues and potential terrorist threats in the next revision of the LTSP. We also expect to discuss this issue during a public focused work session this fall.

- D-7 | 7. There is an need for a Weldon Spring Web site to be identified for access on a local "name" basis and to continue the local identity of Weldon Spring. This could be established as the Weldon Spring Interpretive Center web site with a link to GJO. This would do **much** to further the cause of good community relations.

Response D-7: Noted. Presently the WSSRAP web site is hosted in Washington DC and can be accessed through the GJO LTSM Program website. Also, the site can be accessed as WSSRAP.com. DOE will determine if a new domain name might be appropriate when remedial action is complete (the "RAP" portion of the current domain name). DOE suggests this item be discussed in the working sessions to be held this fall.

D-8 | 8. Keep up the good work. You have a large group of citizens willing to help !!!

Response D-8: DOE commits to continuing to work to gain the trust and confidence of the community that lives near the Weldon Spring site, and to ensure the safety of the community. This can be accomplished best with open communication and exchange of ideas and concerns between DOE and Weldon Spring community.

Please feel free to call upon me if I can assist further.

(s) DEP

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